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European **Patent Office**

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PCT

Bescheinigung

Certificate

Die angehefteten Unterlagen stimmen mit der ursprünglich eingereichten Fassung der auf dem nächsten Blatt bezeichneten europäischen Patentanmeldung überein.

The attached documents are exact copies of the European patent application conformes à la version described on the following page, as originally filed.

Les documents fixés à cette attestation sont initialement déposée de la demande de brevet européen spécifiée à la page suivante.

Patent application No. Demande de brevet nº Patentanmeldung Nr.

99203023.9

PRIORITY DOCUMENT

SUBMITTED OR TRANSMITTED IN COMPLIANCE WITH RULE 17.1(a) OR (b)

Der Präsident des Europäischen Patentamts; Im Auftrag

For the President of the European Patent Office

Le Président de l'Office européen des brevets p.o.

I.L.C. HATTEN-HECKMAN

DEN HAAG, DEN THE HAGUE, LA HAYE, LE

10/10/00



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Blatt 2 der Bescheinigung Sheet 2 of the certificate Page 2 de l'attestation

Anmeldung Nr.: Application no.:

99203023.9

Demande n°:

Applicant(s): Demandeur(s): Sara Lee/DE N.V. 3532 AA Utrecht

NETHERLANDS

Bezeichnung der Erfindung: Title of the invention: Titre de l'invention:

Air freshening apparatus

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A61L9/03

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Bemerkungen: Remarks: Remarques:

1012 EPA/EPO/OEB Form

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EPO_DESC 16. 09. 1999

Title: Air freshening apparatus

The present invention relates to an air freshening apparatus, comprising a reservoir with a wick, which reservoir can be filled with a fuel, particularly with lamp oil.

Such an apparatus is known from Dutch patent application NL-A-10.06055. In that apparatus the reservoir is filled with a mixture of a lamp fuel and an active component, such as a fragrance, which mixture is absorbed by a wick. The upper part of the wick is surrounded by a heat conducting bushlike element with openings via which the fragrance evaporates during burning. A shield is present to prevent the evaporated fragrance entering into the flame and getting burned.

A disadvantage of a mixture of lamp fuel and fragrance is that the composition of the mixture will not be constant due to a different evaporating rate and to a certain evaporating of the fragrance during the period that the apparatus is not in use, i.e. is not burning.

The purpose of the invention is to improve the known apparatus, particularly with respect to the above disadvantage. Therefore, according to the invention, the air freshening apparatus as described in the preamble is characterized in that the apparatus further comprises heat conducting means for heat transport from the wick, when burning, to a separate holder for an active component, such as a fragrance.

In a first preferred embodiment the reservoir is provided with a lid holding the wick and with a lamp glass thereabove while in the lamp glass there is mounted a metal element, which forms part of the heat conducting means. In this embodiment the metal element can be mounted in the lamp glass in the vicinity of, particularly above the location of the wick, when burning.

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The first embodiment of the apparatus according to the invention as shown in fig. 1 comprises a reservoir 1, which is filled with lamp fuel 2 and is closed by a lid 3. Through an opening in the lid 3 a wick 4 is inserted into the lamp fuel in the reservoir 1. A lamp glass 5 is placed on the top of the lid 3. A separate holder 6, filled with an active component 7, such as a fragrance, is provided. In the embodiment shown, the holder 6 forms an integral part of the lamp glass 5. Through an opening in the upper part of the holder 6 a wick 8 is inserted into the active component 7 in the holder 6. In the lamp glass 5 a metal element 9 is mounted in the vicinity of the wick 4, particularly above the wick 4 at such a distance that, when the wick is burning, the flame heats the metal element 9. Heat conducting means are formed by the metal part 5 and at least part of the contact surface 10 between the holder 6 and the lamp glass 5. Particularly, part of the contact surface 10 can be a metal part connected to the metal element 9. When the wick 4 is burning, heat is conducted from the metal element 9 and at least part of the contact surface 10 to the active component 7 in the holder 6, with the consequence that the active component is evaporated via the wick 8.

Fig. 2 shows an embodiment of the apparatus according to the invention, in which a reservoir 11, filled with a lamp fuel 12 is closed by a heat conducting plug 13. Through an opening in the plug 13 a wick 14 is inserted. A separate holder 15, filled with an active component 16, such as a fragrance, is replaceable mounted on a side surface of the reservoir 11, e.g. by clamping means 17. Through the open end of the holder 15 a wick 18 is inserted. The wick 18 reaches out of a bushlike element 19, which is mounted above the opening of the holder 15. The bushlike element 19 is connected is provided with a projection 21, which reaches to above the plug 13 and forms with the plug 13 heat conducting means. When the wick 14 is burning, heat is conducted through the plug 13 and the bushlike element 19 to

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16. 09. 1999

Claims

- 1. Air freshening apparatus, comprising a reservoir with a wick, which reservoir can be filled with a fuel, particularly with lamp oil, characterized in that the apparatus further comprises heat conducting means for heat transport from the wick, when burning, to a separate holder for an active component, such as a fragrance.
- 2. Air freshening apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that the reservoir is provided with a lid holding the wick and with a lamp glass thereabove while in the lamp glass there is mounted a metal element, which forms part of the heat conducting means.
- 3. Air freshening apparatus according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the metal element is mounted in the lamp glass in the vicinity of, particularly above the location of the wick, when burning.
- 4. Air freshening apparatus according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the holder forms an integral part of the apparatus.
- Air freshening apparatus according to claim 2 and 4,
 characterized in that the holder forms an integral part of the lamp glass.
 - 6. Air freshening apparatus according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that at least part of the holder forms part of the heat conducting means.
- 7. Air freshening apparatus according to anyone of the claims 1-3, characterized in that the holder is replaceable and that the apparatus is provided with connecting means to connect the holder to the apparatus.
- 8. Air freshening apparatus according to claim 7,
 30 characterized in that at least part of the connecting means or at least part of a contact surface between the holder and the apparatus forms part of the heat conducting means.



Abstract

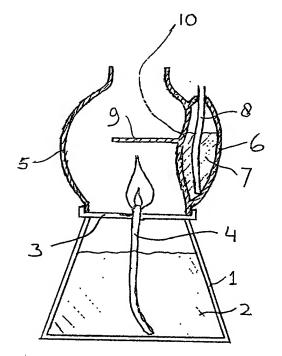
An air freshening apparatus comprises a reservoir with a wick, which reservoir can be filled with a fuel, particularly with lamp oil, and heat conducting means for heat transport from the wick, when burning, to a separate holder for an active component, such as a fragrance. The holder may form an integral part of the apparatus or may be replaceable, in which case the apparatus is provided with connecting means to connect the holder to the apparatus.

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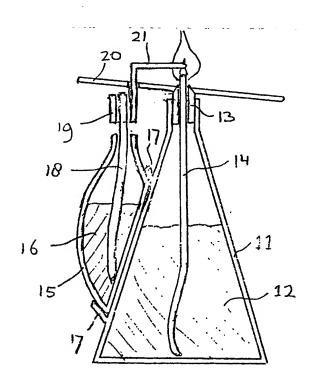


FIG.2

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